

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MELBOU 00991 210205Z

70

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-03

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SP-03

CIEP-03 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15

PRS-01 L-03 DRC-01 /118 W
----- 002377

R 202345Z AUG 74

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2316
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMCONSUL BRISBANE BY MAIL
AMCONSUL PERTH BY MAIL
AMCONSUL SYDNEY
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

UNCLAS MELBOURNE 0991

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, AS

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES SHOW SHARP INCREASE

1. RECENT ECONOMIC UPSET IN AUSTRALIA INCLUDING
CONTINUED RISE IN COST OF LIVING TOOK PLACE AGAINST AN
INCREASINGLY UNSETTLED EMPLOYMENT PICTURE.

2. DETAILED ANALYSIS OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICE STATISTICS
WAS RELEASED AUGUST 11 BY MIN. LABOR CLYDE CAMERON
AS FOLLOWS:

"PROVISIONAL COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE
STATISTICS JULY 1974.

THE DEMAND FOR LABOR FELL SHARPLY DURING JULY:
UNFILLED VACANCIES DROPPED BY 11,657 (OR 18.7
PERCENT) AND REGISTERED UNEMPLOYED
ROSE BY 14,758 (OR 18.7 PERCENT). THIS WAS IN
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MARKED CONTRAST TO THE NORMAL MOVEMENTS FOR THE

MONTH.

THE EASING IN LABOR DEMAND OCCURRED IN ALL STATES BUT WAS MOST PRONOUNCED IN VICTORIA AND QUEENSLAND. DESPITE THIS GENERAL EASING VACANCIES STILL EXCEED UNEMPLOYED IN SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE-ALTHOUGH THE GAP HAS NARROWED CONSIDERABLY.

IN SEASONALLY ADJUSTED TERMS, UNFILLED VACANCIES DECLINED BY 16,460 (21.3 PERCENT) TO 60,925; UNEMPLOYED EXCLUDING SCHOOL-LEAVERS INCREASED BY 17,300 (24.4 PERCENT) TO 88,171. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AVERAGE HOURS OF OVERTIME WORKED PER EMPLOYEE IN THE DEPARTMENT'S MONTHLY SURVEY DECLINED FROM 3.7 HOURS IN MAY TO 3.5 IN JUNE.

THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF UNFILLED VACANCIES DECLINED TO 50,523 AND REGISTERED EMPLOYED INCREASED TO 93,585 OR 1.59 PERCENT OF THE ESTIMATED LABOR FORCE." BROWN

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